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# FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

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## CHINA.

### Hankow—Typhus Fever.

Consul General Greene at Hankow reports 1 case of typhus fever at Hankow during the week ended June 1, 1912.

### Hongkong—Plague—Smallpox—Plague-Infected Rats.

Surg. Brown reports: During the week ended June 1, 1912, 140 cases of plague, with 110 deaths, and 3 cases of smallpox, with 3 deaths, were reported at Hongkong.

During the same period 2,666 rats were examined for plague infection; 46 were found to be plague infected.

During the month of May 689 cases of plague, with 587 deaths, and 25 cases of smallpox, with 15 deaths, were reported at Hongkong.

During the same month 10,998 rats were examined for plague infection; 208 were found to be plague infected.

## CUBA.

### Habana—Plague Situation.

Passed Asst. Surg. von Ezdorf reports, July 17:

The first case of plague in Habana was in the person of a Spaniard, 47 years of age, who was taken sick June 30. He was seen by the commission on infectious diseases July 5, and the diagnosis of plague was confirmed July 6. The patient is convalescing.

The second case of plague was in a Spaniard, age 26 years. He was under treatment at the Dependientes Hospital. His illness was suspicious. He died July 10. Six hours before death fluid was obtained by puncture from his swollen femoral glands. This fluid showed a large number of bipolar staining bacilli, which morphologically and by staining reaction were those of plague. The cultural characteristics of the organism were also those of plague.

The infected district, which has been established as four blocks, is in the vicinity of the wharves. On June 20 an anonymous communication was received by the sanitary department to the effect that rats were dying in an area covering two blocks in Oficios Street. Inquiry elicited the information that the mortality among rats had been noticed during the preceding two weeks, and that the unusual mortality had ceased by the time the information reached the sanitary department. Investigation, however, led to the finding of several dead rats. These were necropsied, but were found negative as to plague. Beginning July 8, a routine examination was made of all the rats caught in this district. From July 8 to 14, inclusive, 1,400 rats were examined without any being found infected.